

Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from Brandenburg

25X1X EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 14 to 23 June 1952

25X1 DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 26 July 1952

25X1 REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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25X1X SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. At 9 a.m. on 14 June 1952, 6 prime movers with 2 gun-barrel trailers, 2 gun carriages and 2 box trail gun carriages, 16 trucks, 1 jeep, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 sedan, [REDACTED] were entrained at the Brandenburg (N 53/23) railroad station, coming from the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne. The loading operation was made under supervision of a colonel. A railroadman stated that the train was dispatched to Altenpabow. *
2. At 1 a.m. on 23 June, five SU-76 mounts were unloaded at the railroad station under supervision of a Soviet officer and 20 Volkspolizei (VP) members. The shipment came from Frankfurt/Oder [REDACTED] as dispatcher and proceeded in the direction of Plaue. ** On 23 June, the Flak Kaserne was occupied only by a rear detail of 30 to 50 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. ***
3. On 18 June, the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne was occupied to capacity by an estimated 800 to 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The troops were seen maintaining caterpillar tractors and drilling. * Howitzers of 122-mm caliber towed by caterpillar tractors were seen at the installation. Six to 8 howitzers were seen almost daily in the training area about 1 km west of the VP Kaserne in Hohenstuecken, with VP personnel receiving instruction. ** The guns of 210-mm caliber loaded on two mounts were no longer seen in the last weeks. 25X1C

4. [REDACTED]

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5. At about 11 a.m. on 16 June, about 25 officers and 375 soldiers armed with rifles were seen marching out of the installation. They returned at about 4 p.m. While they were away from the installation, other soldiers were seen engaged in athletics and maintaining trucks and caterpillar tractors in the barracks area. On 22 June, the barracks installation was again heavily occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. About 500 soldiers were seen at rifle

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inspection, while additional soldiers were seen in the barracks yard and/or the barracks buildings. [REDACTED] at night guns on twin mounts entered the installation at about 3 p.m. on 20 June. *

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4. On 22 June, the Flak Kaserne was still occupied by a rear detail. ***

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* [REDACTED] Comment. The train which carried an element to Altengrabow, obviously a battery with two guns of the 12th Wv How Arty Brig(US) on 14 June, is confirmed by previous reports. [REDACTED] The fluctuating strength of the occupation of the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne is due to the short-term firing practices in Altengrabow to which units of the afore mentioned brigade are being rotated.

** [REDACTED] Comment. The SU-76 possibly was for the VPD in Hohenstuecken, northwest of Brandenburg. Previous observations indicated that the tank battalions of the Volkspolizei cadre units are armed with both T-34 tanks and SU-76 guns. It cannot definitely be stated whether the 122-mm howitzers from the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne were only for the training of the VP personnel or whether they were part of the equipment of the VPD in Hohenstuecken which has not hitherto been known. [REDACTED] belongs to the processing office for military goods in Prest Litovsk and Frankfurt/Oder.

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*** [REDACTED] Comment. The occupation of the Flak Kaserne as of 20 June had not changed since the last report in early June. [REDACTED]

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